GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2873
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2008
ALLOCATION FOR ATOMIC ENERGY
Budholiya Shri Rajnarayan

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to emphasise on the need for new research in the field of Atomic Energy in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of funds proposed to be allocated by the Government during the Eleventh Five Year Plan for this purpose?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE(SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

a) & b) Yes, Sir. Considering the need for new research in the atomic energy, Department of Atomic Energy is emphasizing on the following thrust areas of R&D during the XI Plan:

Intensifying of Uranium exploration including development of aerial electromagnetic survey capability

R&D Support for 700 MWe PHWRs, life extension of existing NPPs/HWPs, Fuel cycle and Safety related research etc.

Metallic fuel for fast reactors and associated fuel cycle
Development of Advanced Reactor / New Energy Systems like Advanced heavy Water Reactor (AHWR), Indian High Temperature Reactor (IHTR), Setting up a multi-purpose research reactor with facility to accommodate a proton beam driven neutron source in future etc.

Development of core technologies for Accelerator Driven Systems (ADS)

Development of special materials for high temperature systems

Development of systems for hydrogen generation and storage

Energy conversion technologies

Thorium fuel cycle development

Major thrust in strategic areas

Development of special materials

India's participation in ITER and development of fusion energy technologies

Strengthening advanced basic research facilities like Indus-II beam lines, Indian Neutrino Observatory (INO) and Radioactive Ion Beam (RIB) within the country and participation in international mega-science projects like Facility for Antiproton and Ion Research (FAIR), International Linear Collider (ILC) and X-ray Free Electron Laser (XFEL)

Greater outreach of societal applications in the areas of radiation technologies applications, nuclear agriculture, food processing by irradiation, health care, water,industrial lasers etc

c) During the XI Plan, an amount of Rs.11,000 crore has been provided in the outlay for R&D activities.